



MARCH 1973

As you all know, this month is the last complete one of full-scale operation in the brief and sometimes troubled history of Craigdarroch College. During next month, as exams conclude, our students will fade into Canada's inconceivable vastness, leaving empty buildings to be occupied during the summer by delegates to conferences and by summer session students. Since this is the last-ever issue of this Newsletter, we hope our readers will be patient if it goes on rather longer than previous ones. Lest the few announcements be overlooked, if delayed until the end, here they are:-

- (1) College Ball - So many people have asked for the date, carelessly omitted from the announcement in our last issue, that though apologising for the error, I have noted with satisfaction how many actually read the Newsletter! The Spring Formal, the College's final fling, will take place on Friday, March 16, from 9 p.m. Supper and entertainment, as well as the Jade ensemble, normally heard in the Paint Cellar at the Empress, are included in the price of \$5 per couple, and the price of drinks has been reduced to 3 for \$1.00. At the intermission, or a convenient pause, some farewell speeches and presentations will be made.
- (2) "Chariot of the Gods" - This Science Fiction movie, a 'rave' when televised, will be shown on Wednesday, March 21, in Elliott 168, at 7:30 p.m. No charge for admission, but get there in good time!
- (3) College Swim - Except for the Residence End-of-term Party, this is the College's last organised event, scheduled for Sunday, March 25, at the Crystal Pool at 9:15 p.m. If you haven't been before, get a ticket from Mrs. Nasser at the College Office, this being necessary for accurate reporting of numbers so that life-guards can be provided. Admission free to members of either College, 25¢ for A.M.S. guests, 50¢ for off-campus guests. Previous events have gone well, so come along and enjoy this final swim of the year.

President's Committee on Re-structuring Residence Administration

This committee has been meeting weekly since October in order:

- (1) to recommend an alternative organisational structure to the College system, on reflecting the real nature of the complex as purely residential units;
- (2) to recommend methods whereby resident life can relate effectively with student life generally;
- (3) to report to the President by March 31, 1973.

During its deliberations, it has considered a number of briefs from individual resident students, from large groups in the residences, and by other persons who have first-hand experience in the administration and in residence life. Non-resident opinion was also reflected in the Committee's composition, by Jim Horne and Gerry Seto of the College Councils and by Greg Fraser representing the A.M.S. The Committee also obtained very useful information and advice through meeting with members of the College Task Force. To obtain first-hand information, the Committee toured residence and

Commons Block facilities. Consideration was also given to possible improvements in the Commons Block and since that building is to become a general university facility, changes would benefit all students. Two important dinner meetings were held by the Committee, at which all residence students were able to take part in discussion and offer valuable comments upon the Committee's work and conclusions.

It cannot be over-emphasized that the work of the Committee, and the Report drawn up for the President, could not have been completed without the hard work of its student members, and constant feed-back from the Residence Councils and individual students. The recommendations the Committee is making to the President embody the results of this close consultation and collaboration. These recommendations received the general approval of residence students at the Committee's meeting with them on Monday, 5 March. It is regretted that we cannot publish these recommendations, but this is understandable; the Report exists only in draft form at the time of compiling the Newsletter. It must go first to the President, who will be responsible for its final release.

Elaine Limbrick.

Farewell Words from the Master

As we approach the termination of the College system on the campus, I find, as with most endings, that it is difficult to strike the right note. For five years I have been associated with Craigdarroch College, for one year as a Fellow, and for four as Master. Perhaps I should be more distressed by the termination of the system than I am; perhaps I should be bothered by a personal sense of failure. Strangely enough, as I regard both the past and present I must confess to neither reaction.

I suppose I regarded the College system from the beginning as an interesting experiment; it had a tremendous potential, but there were also many difficulties. In the beginning there was a balance; in the last two years the scale has tipped in favor of the difficulties.

Looking back over the five years of College activity, I believe a number of things have been achieved: life has been made a little more interesting and lively for students socially, in athletics, and through informal and formal discussions. Hamburger Hockey at midnight; the first College Ball, when the tremendous potential of the Commons Block Dining Room suddenly became clear; lectures on witchcraft and accupuncture; films; and of course, meetings and meetings, and meetings -- all these are what the College memories hold for me. For each person involved they will vary.

As with most new undertakings, we in Craigdarroch College proceeded, as often as not, by trial and error. We had our successes, and were pleased; but more important, we tried not to allow our failures to discourage us. Time after time I am sure the students must have been disheartened to the point of defeat by the lack of response to their efforts, by the apathy of their fellows. At such times soul-searching self-examination seemed to become a way of life in the Council meetings. But in spite of set-backs, misunderstanding, hostility and indifference, the members of the Craigdarroch Council kept working and planning as wide and varied a programme of activities as seemed possible. Over the years we frequently shared the excitement of success; less often we shared the painful wisdom gained from failure.

Personally, I should also like to thank all the students, who, through the years, have contributed so much of their time and energy to College Affairs. The greatest reward I have received from my years as Master has come from working with the Council members. Their contagious enthusiasm, ingenuity, tolerance and good will was a source of strength and encouragement.

I would also like to pay tribute to the Fellows of Craigdarroch who have given so generously of their time. Like myself, Dr. Limbrick and Dr. Adey have been with Craigdarroch from the beginning. Without the help, advice, wisdom and enthusiasm of these two and of the other fellows who have shared our duties, Craigdarroch College would have been a much poorer undertaking.

The disappearance of the College System may have little impact in many areas of the campus. However, for those students involved with Craigdarroch College I hope it has enriched your lives and expanded your experience. I trust that as it disappears from the campus scene it leaves behind in many of us pleasant memories and a feeling that though the experiment may have failed, the attempt was well worth the making.

Grant McOrmond

Letter from a Student of Craigdarroch

Dear Editor,

To me, this letter seems more like a "whimper" than a "bang", but as a resident member of Craigdarroch College, I desire to voice a feeling in this Newsletter.

I should like to express my appreciation for the fantastic work one person has done for all in Craigdarroch College. This person has helped me organise both dances for which I have been responsible this year, and without her freely-given assistance I would have been hard put to make them successes. This person has guided me in deciding how to organise other functions. If I needed to phone George Pearkes arena, or even make a dental appointment, she has let me use her phone. This person has spent many hours typing, and selling tickets, in connection with various functions. She has each day done so much that I am amazed she could keep track of all her duties, voluntary and otherwise.

We have her to thank for the distribution of games equipment and stereo. We have her to thank for the hopeful prospect of 'mail today'. Without Mrs. Nasser as secretary and wonder-woman of Craigdarroch College, I know this year would not have gone so successfully. I wish to thank Mrs. Nasser for her four years of work in the College, and especially for her unbounded willingness to help me this year. Even though her position with Craigdarroch College will end, I hope that future recipients will be thankful for the voluntary work she will do for them, as we of Craigdarroch are for all she has done for us.

Thank you, Nancy, and good luck from us all!

Brian Haddow
Social Convenor,
Men's Residence Council
Representative on College Council

And so say all of us Fellows!

Ed.

May I, at this time, express to the hundreds upon hundreds of students that I have worked with and came in contact with over the past four years, how much I have enjoyed this privilege.

I know I will find it extremely difficult to adjust to another position where the personal day-to-day contact with students will be lacking. I want to thank each and everyone of you for accepting me the way you have, and for your many kindnesses throughout the years that I have been associated with Craigdarroch College. I am going to miss you all.

Nancy Nasser

The Editor's Last Word

To have the last word is the Editor's privilege. Oddly enough, I also had the first. Our initial guest speaker in September 1968, was the then Mayor of Victoria, Hugh Stephen. After giving him dinner in 'L' Hut (the Commons Block being still on the drawing-board) we returned to the Office/Study wing to find assembled six students! Hastily Dr. Gooch rounded up seventy more, as I tried to take the Mayor on a tour, but found every room locked up. This and other scarifying experiences of the communication difficulties that plagued us all that year gave me a bright idea. It came one Saturday during the then daily shave, and by midday several startled students were producing our first newspaper, The Collegian. This ran for three issues before folding for lack of contributors. The following year Mr. McOrmond found a student to do a Newsletter, which by ironic justice I have edited in its final year. By another coincidence, it has been my lot to run the first and last College functions, Mayor Stephen's address and the Swim of March 25. Even odder, the first Commons Block event, a colloquium on The Causes and Prevention of War, on March 3, 1969, had me organiser and chairman too, and that was marred by the last-minute withdrawal of a famous speaker and the unexpected appearance of some very argumentative members of a local political body, who tried to take over the meeting.

Altogether, then, the College's short life has been characterised by drama, sometimes disagreement, always the unexpected. After the Martlet had panned the infant College for a solid year as 'irrelevant', possibly the most relevant event took place

in the University's history, a College discussion on the Quebec crisis in Fall, 1970. Some meetings, notably the acupuncture one in 1971, attracted vast numbers of local citizens. Others, like the faculty colloquium on the Nature of Man in February 1969, attracted modest numbers but proved of superlative quality. Whatever you expected from an event or speaker, you always got something different. If any endeavours have to be picked out as triumphantly successful, they would be Dr. Lai's film-series on Pacific Rim countries, that have brightened up winter lunch-hours since early 1970, and the annual Chinese New Year celebration, for which also Dr. Lai was largely responsible.

One thing I never understood was the question asked regularly from the first week on, "How is the College?" or the alternative version, "Has it succeeded?" Perhaps no-one coming from an old country can ever understand the anxiety, in a new and vital one, to produce tangible results quickly. Had Paris or Oxford, or for that matter Harvard 'succeeded' in their first few years? What is or was 'success', anyway? What for me the College has achieved was to bring together groups of people who cared about making a common endeavour work. Whether at balls run more stylishly than most, whether at discussions in empty rooms or full ones, whether in sometimes uproariously amusing Council meetings, or whether facing a student who about this time of year would become uptight about faculty-student relations, I have always felt this the most human place on the campus. For the fun we've had doing this, Mr. McOrmond must take much of the credit, and Mrs. Nasser a good deal too. Finally, I should like to thank all the residence students who have invited us to Christmas parties, end-of-terms gatherings, and what not, and to offer one uninvited opinion: the College system has given students better value for money, and left more permanent benefits to residence life, than anyone unfamiliar with the complex would realise. May those returning next year enjoy life in the new system, and may all who are leaving prosper the better for having been here!

Lionel Adey